

REMARKS

Claims 2, 5, 6, 9 and 10 are pending. By this Response, claims 1, 3, 4, 7 and 8 are cancelled. Claims 2, 5, 6, 9 and 10 have been allowed.

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 3, 4 and 8 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Ogino, et al. (US 5,589,883) and claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Ogino in view of Okada (US 4,298,885). These rejections are moot in view of the cancellation of claims 1, 3, 4, 7 and 8.

Applicant respectfully submits that the application is now in condition for allowance. Claims 2, 5, 6, 9 and 10 which are currently pending were allowed in the last Office Action. Rejected claims 1, 3, 4, 7 and 8 have been cancelled. Therefore, the application should be in condition for allowance. Prompt allowance of the application is earnestly solicited.

Conclusion


Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Chad J. Billings (Reg. No. 48,917) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

Appl. No. 09/837,386

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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By 
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Attachment(s)